GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:657
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2005
VISIT OF JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Japan visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of the bilateral and multilateral issues discussed during the said visit and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether India and Japan have agreed to work out a common bilateral approach for securing permanent membership in UNSC;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any agreement has been signed on the occasion; and

(f) if so, the salient features thereof and the benefits to be accrued to India as a result thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a)-(f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO PARTS (A) TO(F) IN REPLY OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 657 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.5.2005 REGARDING VISIT OF JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The discussions between the two Prime Ministers covered a wide range of bilateral, regional and international issues. The two countries agreed to add a strategic focus to their global partnership, work together as partners in the new emerging Asian era, and launch an `Eight-fold Initiative` to take their partnership to a higher dimension.

(c)-(d) India and Japan reiterated their support for each other`s candidature for the permanent membership in an expanded United Nations Security Council, and agreed to further strengthen their cooperation in this regard, both bilaterally and in the G-4 framework.

(e)-(f) The two Prime Ministers signed a Joint Statement captioned `India-Japan Partnership in the New Asian Era: Strategic Orientation of India-Japan Global Partnership`. The Joint Statement outlines an updated vision of the India-Japan global partnership and lays down an `Eight-fold Initiative` for strengthening the global partnership. The Eight-fold Initiative comprises of measures for cooperation in eight key areas of interaction, namely: (a) enhanced and upgraded dialogue architecture; (b) comprehensive economic engagement; (c) enhanced security dialogue and cooperation; (d) science and technology initiative; (e) cultural and academic initiatives and strengthening of people to people contacts; (f) cooperation in ushering a new Asian era; (g) cooperation in the UN and other international organisations; and (h) cooperation in responding to global challenges and opportunities.

The visit of Prime Minister Koizumi has deepened the friendly and cooperative relationship between India and Japan. The two countries have also agreed to work as partners for promoting the security, stability and prosperity of Asia and in advancing international peace and equitable development.